

PATENT

## N'THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

R. MAEDA et al.

Serial Number: 09/893,703

Filed: June 29, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2838

Examiner: Unassigned

For: HYDROGEN ABSORBING ALLOY ELECTRODE, METHOD OF FABRICATING

THE SAME AND ALKALINE STORAGE BATTERY

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

September 26, 2001

Sir:

Prior to continued examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## **IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 15 with the following rew

paragraph:

Examples of the above-mentioned polymeric material to fee the coating layer includes a copolymer comprising at least two types of elements selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid ester, methacrylic acid ester, aromatic olefin, conjugated diene and olefin. Specifically, styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer, ethylene-acrylic acid ester copolymer, methacrylic